

## Message Text

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67

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 NIC-01 MED-03 /072 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MJERABEK:SS

APPROVED BY EUR/P:FSEIDNER

S/PRS - MR. HARE

EUR/SOV - MR. DYESS

----- 099121

R 082301Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 004367

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, UR

SUBJECT:RUMORS OF BREZHNEV'S ILLNESS";

FOLLOWING IS FROM DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING  
JANUARY 8, 1975:";

QUOTE: Q: ONE RUMOR I WOULD LIKE TO CHECK AND SEE IF YOU  
CAN EITHER CONFIRM OR DENY. A RUMOR HAS REACHED MY RADIO  
STATION THAT THIS MORNING EARLY A PLANE LANDED AT DULLES  
WITH MR. BREZHNEV ON HIS WAY TO A CANCER CLINIC. CAN  
YOU EITHER CONFIRM OR DENY?

A: I HAVE SEEN A NUMBER OF REPORTS THAT CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV  
EVIDENTLY MAY BE COMING TO THE UNITED STATES FOR MEDICAL  
TREATMENT. ALL I CAN SAY IS WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AND  
HAVE NEVER HAD ANY INFORMATION THAT THE GENERAL SECRETARY  
WILL BE COMING TO THE UNITED STATES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Q: IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT THIS MIGHT BE A HIGHLY CON-  
FIDENTIAL THING THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE COME TO YOUR ATTENTION?  
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A: I THINK THAT IF THE GENERAL SECRETARY WERE COMING I  
WOULD PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT IT, YES.

Q: COULD I REPHRASE THAT QUESTION? DOES THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY INFORMATION, REGARDLESS OF THE ILLNESS,  
THAT THE GENERAL SECRETARY IS SICK?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO COMMENT. I MEAN RON NESSEN HAS  
BEEN ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO THIS QUESTION FOR THE LAST  
TWO OR THREE DAYS, AND OBVIOUSLY WE NEVER HAD ANY COMMENT  
THE REPORTS, RUMORS, AND WHAT HAVE YOU ON POSSIBLE  
ILLNESS OF ANY FOREIGN LEADERS. I JUST HAVE NOTHING ON  
IT. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEALTH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE004367  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MJERABEK:SS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750008-0643  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 MAR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAR 2003 by RicharJA>; APPROVED <29 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UMORS OF BREZHNEV'S ILLNESS"; FOLLOWING IS FROM DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, (BREZHNEV)  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006